AP/IA

PTO/SB/21 (04-07)
Approved for use through 09/30/2007. OMB 0651-0031

| Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no | U.S. F Dersons are required to respond to a col | atent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE lection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. |
|---|--|--|
| | Application Number | 10/800580 |
| TRANSMITTAL | Filing Date | 03/15/2004 |
| FORM | First Named Inventor | Kenji Inoue |
| [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [| Art Unit | 1771 |
| JUL 2 0 2007 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filin | Examiner Name | E. Cole |
| A T | Attorney Docket Number | kin99usa |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | |
| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | |
| Fee Transmittal Form Fee Attached Amendment/Reply After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | Drawing(s) Licensing-related Papers Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence A Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund CD, Number of CD(s) Landscape Table on CD Remarks | ddress Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): Acknowledgment postcard |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | |
| Firm Name Howson & Howson LLP | | |
| Signature | | |
| I lun 100 | | |
| Printed name George A. Smith, Jr. | | |
| Date July 18, 2007 | R | Reg. No. 24442 |
| | | |
| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING | | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: | | |
| Signature | | |
| Typed or printed name George A. Smith, Jr. | . 1 | Date July 18, 2007 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Customer No. 00270



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/800580 Applicant: Kenji Inoue

Filed: 03/15/2004

TC/A.U.: 1771
Examiner: E. Cole
Docket No.: KIN99USA
Customer No. 00270

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF FINAL REJECTION

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Confirmation No: 1657

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)(1)(ii) (PATENT)

I certify that this paper is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail and is addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450."

Signed

Date:

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Official action of April 18, 2007. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the final rejection, which is based on JP 2001-089990 and Legge U.S. Patent 4781967.

As mentioned previously in our request to reopen prosecution, JP 2001-089990 teaches the use of nylon without mentioning any of the more hydrophilic fibers (vinylon, rayon, cotton, and wool) specified in claim 1, as amended. Moreover, the alternative to nylon that is mentioned in the Japanese reference, PTFE ("TEFLON") is clearly on the hydrophobic side relative to nylon.

As noted by the Examiner, Legge describes cotton, wool, and various other materials such as vinyl polymers, as alternatives to nylon for use in supporting yarn assemblies in a papermaking press felt (Legge, column 3, lines 17-41). The same materials are also mentioned as suitable for the fibrous